United Nations A/C.2/54/L.61

General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100
Environment and sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.16

World Solar Programme 1996-2005

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/7 of 16 October 1998, by which it, *inter alia*, endorsed the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 as a contribution to the overall sustainable development agenda and invited all Member States of the United Nations to contribute to its successful implementation,

Recalling also resolution 29 C/14 concerning the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in November 1997,

Reaffirming that the convening of the World Solar Summit at Harare on 16 and 17 September 1996, at which the Harare Declaration on Solar Energy and Sustainable Development[1] was adopted and the preparation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005[2] approved, was a step in pursuance of the implementation of Agenda 21,[3] which is a multifaceted and, at the same time, fundamental programme of action for achieving sustainable development,

Recognizing that mutually supportive efforts at the national and international levels are imperative in the pursuit of sustainable development, which includes, *inter alia*, the provision of financial resources and the transfer of technology for the application of cost-effective energy systems and wider use of environmentally friendly, renewable energies,

[1] A/53/395, annex, sect. II.
[2] Ibid., annex, sect. V.D.
[3] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

99-36798 (E) 301199

Acknowledging the important role of the General Assembly in promoting the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Acknowledging also the role of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the Economic and Social Council as forums for the discussion on new and renewable sources of energy and sustainable development,

Expressing its appreciation of the efforts of the Secretary-General in bringing the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 to the attention of relevant sources of funding and technical assistance,

Noting the establishment of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Energy with a view to ensuring the coordination of the activities of all relevant organizations in the United Nations system in the preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development in 2001, and with a view to contributing to sustainable development, taking into account the recommendations of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Noting that the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005[4] constitutes one of the major programmes of universal value of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005,

Calling for further action to ensure that the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 is fully integrated into and brought into the mainstream of the efforts of the United Nations system towards attaining the objective of sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the achievement of more substantive results in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, as part of the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, will require the more active and collaborative involvement of all concerned parties, including Governments, multilateral funding agencies and relevant parts of the United Nations system,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "World Solar Programme 1996-2005",[5] on measures taken by the various entities of the United Nations system for the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

2. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting, within its mandate, the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, in particular its education and training programmes in the field of new and renewable sources of energy and, in this context, takes note with appreciation of the initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in inviting the competent organs and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

3. *Takes note* of the role that the World Solar Commission has so far played in the mobilization of international support and assistance for the implementation of many of the national high-priority projects on renewable sources of energy included in the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, many of which are being executed with national funding;

4. *Commends highly* the efforts of many Member States in taking concrete national actions, including legislative measures, which have resulted in the wider use of renewable sources of energy in their countries;

[4] See A/53/395, annex, sect. IV.A.

[5] A/54/212.

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the financial support that has been provided by some developed countries Members of the United Nations and some intergovernmental organizations, within and outside the United Nations system in the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

6. *Calls upon* all relevant funding institutions and bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations, to support, as appropriate, the efforts being made for the development of the renewable energy sector in developing countries based on environmentally friendly renewable sources of energy of demonstrated viability, while taking fully into account the development structure of energy-based economies of developing countries, and to assist in the attainment of the investments necessary to expand energy supplies beyond urban areas;

7. *Takes note* of the decision of the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and encourages the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to make efforts to promote public awareness in all Member States, with the support of international, regional and national institutions, both public and private, regarding the strategic importance of the Global Renewable Energy Education and Training Programme 1996-2005 in attaining the objective of sustainable development;

8. *Invites* all Governments to encourage the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, in the promotion of research on and development of renewable sources of energy, in particular within the context of the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, in accordance with their respective national policies;

9. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote the mobilization of adequate technical assistance and funding and the full utilization of existing international funds for the effective implementation of national and regional high-priority projects in the area of renewable sources of energy;

10. *Invites* the Inter-Agency Working Group on Energy to facilitate the contribution of the work under the World Solar Programme to the consideration by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the theme of energy at its ninth session to be held in 2001;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organizations, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on concrete action being taken to implement the present resolution, for the effective implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005, including promotion for mobilization of resources;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report on energy and sustainable development to the Commission on Sustainable Development, a report on action to be taken to implement the present resolution, including further recommendations on appropriate modalities to promote new and renewable sources of energy;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", a sub-item entitled "Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100 (e)
Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Roble Olhaye (Djibouti), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.8

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/191 of 15 December 1998 and other relevant resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,

Noting with satisfaction that, as stated in operative paragraph 19 of its resolution 52/198, the second session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held in Dakar from 30 November to 11 December 1998,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Senegal for the generous manner in which it hosted and provided facilities for the second session of the Conference of the Parties,

Expressing its deep appreciation also to the Government of Brazil for the generous offer to host the third session of the Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the allocation of additional resources to the Global Mechanism by the Conference of the Parties at its third session,

Looking forward to the continued efforts of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies in addressing desertification, land degradation and drought issues,

99-36996 (E) 011299

Acknowledging that desertification and drought are problems of a global dimension in that they affect all regions of the world and that joint action of the international community is needed to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought,

Stressing the need, *inter alia*, to integrate strategies for poverty eradication into efforts to combat desertification and/or mitigate the effects of drought,

Noting with satisfaction that an increasing number of countries and one regional economic integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the second session of the Conference of the Parties and on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 53/191,[1]

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, at Recife, Brazil, from 15 to 26 November 1999;

2. *Calls upon* all States and other actors to contribute effectively to the successful outcome of the third session of the Conference of the Parties in Recife;

3. *Also calls upon* all remaining countries that are not yet parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Convention as soon as possible;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of implementing the provisions of the Convention at all levels, including the general provisions and obligations of affected and developed countries;

5. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular developed countries and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions and all other relevant actors to support the efforts of affected developing countries in the process of elaborating and implementing action programmes, including, as appropriate, interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation, by providing them with financial resources and other forms of assistance;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Convention secretariat was relocated to Bonn at the end of January 1999 and has begun functioning as the permanent secretariat of the Convention;

7. *Notes* that the Global Mechanism started its activities in early 1999, that it has not yet begun to fully support, *inter alia*, enabling activities under the Convention, and that resources have been made available to it, and invites the Global Mechanism to effectively develop all its activities and support under the Convention;

8. *Also notes* the decision of the third session of the Conference of the Parties related to the first review of policies, operational modalities and activities of the Global Mechanism, and, in this context, urges donors, international organizations and the Global Mechanism, within its mandate, to support the preparation of national reports;

9. *Welcomes* the steps being taken by affected developing country parties with the assistance of international organizations to implement the Convention and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of society in the elaboration of national, regional and subregional action programmes to combat desertification;

[1] A/54/96.

10. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by affected African country parties, developed country parties, international organizations and non-governmental organizations to produce and submit reports for consideration by the third session of the Conference of the Parties;

11. *Requests* the Global Mechanism in conformity with the provisions of the Convention and the relevant decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties at its first, second and third sessions, to effectively carry out its mandate of assisting affected developing country parties in the implementation of the Convention;

12. *Calls upon* the secretariat and the Global Mechanism of the Convention to cooperate fully in carrying out their activities as provided for in their respective mandates;

13. *Welcomes* the financial support already provided on a voluntary basis by some countries, and urges Governments, the private sector and all relevant organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to make or to continue to make voluntary contributions to the Global Mechanism to enable it to effectively and fully implement its mandate;

14. *Also welcomes* the contributions paid by some country parties, and calls upon all parties that have not done so to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention envisaged in the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties, so as to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference, the subsidiary bodies, the permanent secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

15. *Further welcomes* the initial contribution made by the International Fund for Agricultural Development to the Special Resources for the Convention to Combat Desertification Finance Account, and invites the Fund to make available as soon as possible the remaining balance to the Account, in conformity with its pledge made at the first session of the Conference of the Parties in Rome;

16. *Invites* all other relevant organizations and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and other members of the Facilitation Committee of the Global Mechanism, to also make contributions to enable the Global Mechanism to successfully support the implementation of the Convention;

17. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Secretary-General, in conformity with paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 52/198 of 18 December 1997, closed, on 31 December 1998, the Trust Fund and the Special Voluntary Fund established under the provisions of General Assembly resolution 47/188 of 22 December 1992 and transferred the amounts remaining in the Trust Fund and the Special Voluntary Fund, respectively, to the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund established on 1 January 1999 in accordance with relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;[2]

18. *Calls upon* Governments, multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties;

19. *Decides* to include in the calendar of conferences and meetings for the biennium 2000-2001 the sessions of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, including

[2] ICCD/COP(1)/11/Add.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7-11.

the fourth and fifth ordinary sessions of the Conference of the Parties and meetings of its subsidiary bodies;

20. *Notes with appreciation* that some affected developing countries and one region have adopted their national and regional action programmes, and therefore calls upon the international community to contribute to the implementation of those programmes through, *inter alia*, the conclusion of partnership agreements, relevant bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention and contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

21. *Invites* affected developing countries that have not yet adopted their national action programmes, and, where appropriate, regional and subregional action programmes, to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of their action programmes with a view to finalizing them no later than the end of 2000;

22. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the developed countries and the United Nations system, and invites the multilateral financial institutions, the private sector and all other interested actors, to support the efforts of affected developing countries in the processes of elaborating and implementing action programmes to combat desertification, including, as appropriate, interregional programmes and platforms of cooperation by providing them with financial resources and other forms of assistance;

23. *Welcomes* the progress made in producing a draft additional regional implementation annex to the Convention for the countries from Eastern and Central Europe with a view to adopting it at the fourth session of the Conference of the Parties, and invites those countries to continue their efforts towards acceding to the Convention;

24. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, to further examine appropriate opportunities and measures to strengthen the complementarities and improve scientific assessments of ecological linkages among the three conventions;

25. *Also encourages* the secretariats of various environmental and environmental-related conventions and other international organizations, with full respect for the statutes of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties of the conventions concerned, to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in their implementation at the international, regional, subregional and national levels;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its fifty-fifth session, on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on the outcome of the third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;

27. *Reminds* the country parties to the Convention that, in accordance with General Assembly decision 52/445 of 18 December 1997, beginning in the year 2000, the conferences of the parties to the conventions signed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development or established as a result of the Conference, as well as other conventions relating to sustainable development, shall take all appropriate measures to avoid convening their sessions and those of their subsidiary bodies during the sessions of the General Assembly;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 99 (a)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.20

Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and the continued validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 45/234 of 21 December 1990, 46/144 of 17 December 1991, 47/152 of 18 December 1992, 48/185 of 21 December 1993, 49/92 of 19 December 1994, 51/173 of 16 December 1996 and 53/178 of 15 December 1998 on the implementation of the Declaration and Strategy, and the Agenda for Development,[1]

Recalling also the results, as agreed, of all the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

[1] Resolution 51/240, annex.

99-37002 (E) 011299

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[2] on the implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

2. *Recognizes* the efforts made to implement the Declaration and Strategy in the 1990s, and stresses the need to strengthen such actions in collaboration with, *inter alia*, efforts taken in the context of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[3] and its implementing arm, the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa, and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s;[4]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as other relevant international organizations, to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-fifth session an update of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with all concerned organs and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Committee on Development Policy, to submit to the General Assembly for its consideration at its fifty-fifth session, through the Economic and Social Council, a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium, with the aim of giving further impetus to international cooperation for development and of monitoring long-term trends in the global economy as well as the attainment of internationally agreed targets:

(a) Building on the outcomes, *inter alia*, of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held during the 1990s, the Agenda for Development[1] and any other relevant ongoing processes related to international cooperation for development;

(b) Taking into account the dynamic changes to the world economy resulting from, *inter alia*, globalization, interdependence and liberalization and the rapid advances in science and technology;

5. *Requests* the President of the General Assembly at its fifty-fourth session to initiate consultations with all Member States with a view to establishing the modalities for the consideration and conclusion of the proposal of the Secretary-General called for in paragraph 4 above at the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Sustainable development and international cooperation: implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

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[2] A/54/389

[3] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[4] See *Report of the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, 3-14 September 1990* (A/CONF.147/18), part one.

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (a)
Sectoral policy questions: industrial development cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.27

Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development in Developing Countries,[1] the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade,[2] the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[3] its resolutions 52/208 of 18 December 1997 and 53/177 of 15 December 1998, and Economic and Social Council decision 1999/270 of 28 July 1999 on implementation and coordinated follow-up by the United Nations system of initiatives on African development,

Taking note of the Declaration on Africa's Industrialization,[4] adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-third ordinary session, held at Harare, from 2 to 4 June 1997, the Plan of Action of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted by the Conference of African Ministers of Industry at its thirteenth meeting, held at Accra in May 1997, the final communiqué of the first meeting of the Patrons Group of Heads of State and Government of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, adopted at Algiers on 13 July 1999,[5] and the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa, held at Dakar, on 20 and 21 October 1999,

Noting the statement of the Conference of African Ministers of Trade to the Third Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Algiers in September 1999,

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[1] Resolution 8-18/3, annex.
[2] Resolution 45/199, annex.
[3] Resolution 46/151, annex.
[4] See A/52/465, annex II.
[5] A/54/320, annex.

99-37008 (E) 011299

and resolution 2 (XIV) of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry, held at Dakar in October 1999, both of which recognize the critical need for support for African countries in addressing the supply-side constraints to their integration into the world economy,

Recognizing the importance of industrialization as a key element in promoting sustained economic growth and sustainable development in Africa, in accordance with relevant General Assembly resolutions, as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences, and also its role in facilitating efforts for the eradication of poverty through, *inter alia*, promotion of competitiveness, productive employment, capacity-building, gender mainstreaming, and effective and efficient management systems,

Recognizing also the commendable efforts of African countries to engage their respective private sectors in policy dialogue at the highest levels and to improve further the capacity of the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises,

Recognizing further the need for African countries to continue their efforts to create a climate favourable to private-sector development and foreign direct investment and also the commitment of African countries to using both human and financial resources more efficiently in the process of industrialization, as well as emphasizing the continuing need for the mobilization of adequate resources through domestic initiatives, and international support, including, *inter alia*, through enhanced official development assistance, investment guarantees, debt-for-industrial-development swaps, as appropriate, and enhanced market access,

Welcoming the reform and revitalization of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, as well as its new approach of providing comprehensive packages of integrated services, promoting sustainable industrial development in African countries, and its approach to field activities through joint programming with the United Nations resident coordinator system in the framework of UNDAF, where appropriate, and commending the United Nations Industrial Development Organization for initiating closer collaboration with the World Trade Organization, with the participation of their secretariats and the Member and Observer States of the United Nations, with a view to, *inter alia*, contributing to efforts for enhancing market access, as appropriate, for African industrial products,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993-2002);[6]

2. *Reaffirms* the need for the African countries that have yet to do so to integrate the objectives of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, as appropriate, into their national plans for the establishment of institutional capacity for monitoring programmes and related projects;

3. *Invites* the international community, the African Development Bank and other relevant regional institutions to support the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa and the Plan of Action of the Alliance for Africa's Industrialization, including the outcome of the Conference on Industrial Partnerships and Investment in Africa;

4. *Appeals* to the international community, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their respective mandates, to support the efforts of the African countries to intensify and expand industrial cooperation among themselves;

[6] A/54/320.

5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to strengthen its close working relationship with the World Trade Organization and other relevant multilateral institutions, with the participation of their secretariats and of Member States and Observer States of the United Nations, for the provision of technical assistance to African countries, particularly the least developed among them, to enhance their capacity to overcome technical barriers to trade in industrial and other products, including improving quality standards to alleviate supply-side constraints, and to promote industrial competitiveness within the context of the integrated framework initiative in order to enable them to fully integrate into the world economy;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the Economic Commission for Africa, in accordance with their respective mandates, and in coordination with the United Nations system, to support African countries in the implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 2000-2001

Note by the Secretariat

The General Assembly, in resolution 39/217 of 18 December 1984, paragraph 5, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Second Committee for consideration and approval each year a proposed biennial programme of work. The draft biennial programme of work of the Second Committee for 2000-2001, which is annexed to the present document, has been prepared on the basis of existing legislative authority. It also takes into account the draft proposals on which the Committee has taken action. The information contained in the annex, including that on documentation, will be updated orally by the Secretariat when the draft biennial programme of work for 2000-2001 is considered by the Committee.

99-36959 (E) 031299

Annex

Draft biennial programme of work for the Second Committee for 2000-2001[a]

2000

Item 1
Report of the Economic and Social Council[b]

United Nations Population Award

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112)

Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development

Documentation

Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council concerning the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on the report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.41)

Item 2
Macroeconomic policy questions

(a) Trade and development

Documentation

Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))

Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours (General Assembly resolution 53/171)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36)

Report of the Secretary-General on international trade and development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.36)

(b) Commodities

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects (General Assembly resolution 53/174)

(c) External debt crisis and development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the external debt crisis and development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.2)

(d) Science and technology for development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on science and technology for development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.48)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the coordination of mechanisms on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.48)[c]

(e) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.38)

Item 3
Sectoral policy questions

(a) Industrial development cooperation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on industrial development cooperation (General Assembly resolution 53/177)

(b) Business and development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions (General Assembly resolution 53/176) and on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.35

Item 4
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on communication for development programmes in the United Nations system (General Assembly resolution 50/130)

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of the preparations for the International Year of Mountains, 2002 (General Assembly resolution 53/24)

(a) Implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing an update of document A/54/389 (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.63)

Report of the Secretary-General containing a draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.63)[c]

(b) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 48/181 and 53/179)

(c) Cultural development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on cultural development (General Assembly resolution 53/184)

(d) High-level dialogue on strengthening economic cooperation for development through partnership

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the high-level dialogue on strengthening economic cooperation for development through partnership (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.45)

(e) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.66)

Report of the Secretary-General on the coordinated implementation by the United Nations system of the Habitat Agenda (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.66)[c]

Report of the preparatory committee for the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.33)

Item 5
Environment and sustainable development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.43)[c]

Report of the Secretary-General on enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.59)

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Documentation

Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council concerning the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its eighth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 by the regional commissions and the relevant functional commissions of the Council (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58)

(Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on activities contributing to the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58))*

Report of the Secretary-General on measures undertaken in the United Nations system to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and on the implementation of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.51 on the conservation and sustainable development of Central African forest ecosystems (General Assembly resolution 53/188 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58)[c]

Report of the Secretary-General on ways and means of ensuring effective preparations for the 10-year review of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution 53/188 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58)

(b) Convention on Biological Diversity

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the work of the Convention (General Assembly resolution 51/182 and draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.55 and A/C.2/54/L.58)

(c) Water supply and sanitation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General containing an assessment of the water supply and sanitation situation in developing countries (General Assembly resolution 50/126 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/47)[c]

* The General Assembly, in operative paragraph 11 (c) of draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.58, invited the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme to submit its views to the Assembly at the earliest opportunity.

(d) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.50)

Report of the Secretary-General on promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.60)

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (draft resolutions A/C.2/54/L.58 and A/C.2/54/L.62)

(f) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the effective implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005 (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.61)

(g) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the functioning of the institutional linkage of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to the United Nations (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.54)

Item 6
Operational activities for development

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

Item 7
Training and research

United Nations University

Documentation

Report of the Council of the United Nations University (General Assembly resolution 3081 (XXVIII) and Assembly decision 52/450)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations University (General Assembly resolution 53/194)

United Nations Staff College in Turin

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Staff College in Turin (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.42)

United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR)

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.46)

Item 8
Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan (Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/53 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.32)[c]

Item 9
Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.3)

Item 10
Globalization and interdependence

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on collaboration between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.19)

Report of the Secretary-General on action taken in the area of information and communication technology (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.19)

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and interdependence (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.19)

Item 11
International Conference on Financing for Development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.25)

Item 12
Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of preparations for the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.39)

2001[d]

Item 1
Report of the Economic and Social Council[e]

United Nations Population Award

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Fund on the United Nations Population Award and Trust Fund (Economic and Social Council decision 1982/112)

Public administration and development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the five-year assessment of the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/225 (Assembly resolution 53/201)[e]

Item 2
Macroeconomic policy questions

Trade and development

Documentation

Report of the Trade and Development Board (General Assembly resolution 1995 (XIX))

Report of the Secretary-General on unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.40)

Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.56)

Item 3
Sectoral policy questions

(a) Business and development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on business and development (General Assembly resolution 48/180 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.34)

(b) Industrial development cooperation

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.64)

Item 4
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

(a) Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Documentation

Report of the Commission on Human Settlements (General Assembly resolution 32/162)[c]

(b) Women in development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on women in development (General Assembly resolution 42/178 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.52)

(c) Human resources development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on developing human resources for development (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.57)

Item 5
Environment and sustainable development

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and environment (General Assembly resolution 39/229)[c]

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme (General Assembly resolution 2997 (XXVII))[c]

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for Further Implementation of Agenda 21

Documentation

Relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development on its ninth session (General Assembly resolution 47/191)

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken to accelerate the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme of Action for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution 53/188)[c]

(b) International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the international strategy for disaster reduction (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.44)[c]

Item 6
Operational activities for development

Documentation

Relevant chapter of the report of the Economic and Social Council

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (General Assembly resolution 39/125)

(a) Triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the triennial policy review of operational activities undertaken by the United Nations system (General Assembly resolutions 35/81 and 53/192)[c]

Addendum to the above report of the Secretary-General on the impact of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework in the field of operational activities (General Assembly resolution 53/192)[c]

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

Documentation

Report of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution 33/134)[c]

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of South-South cooperation and on economic and technical cooperation among developing countries (General Assembly resolutions 50/119 and 52/205 and draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.47)

Report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.49)

Item 7
International migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on international migration and development, including the question of the convening of a United Nations conference on international migration and development to address migration issues (draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.53)

Notes

[a] The Second Committee will, in accordance with established practice and in pursuance of General Assembly decision 38/429, hold a general debate each year at the beginning of its work.

[b] The list of questions and documentation under this item corresponds to requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Economic and Social Council completes its work in 2000.

[c] Report submitted to the General Assembly through the Economic and Social Council.

[d] The programme of work and documentation list for 2001 will be updated in 2000, taking into account the relevant decisions of the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.

[e] The list of questions and documentation under this item is indicative only of requests for reports from the General Assembly. The list will be finalized after the Economic and Social Council completes its work in 2001.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.66

General Assembly

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2 December 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 99 (b)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.13

Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/177 of 16 December 1996, in which it endorsed the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements[1] and the Habitat Agenda,[2] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) at Istanbul on 14 June 1996,

Also recalling its resolutions 52/190 of 18 December 1997 and 52/192 of 18 December 1997 on the follow-up to decisions of Habitat II and the future role of the Commission on Human Settlements,

Further recalling its resolution 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on environment and human settlements,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,[3]

Having also considered the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session,[4]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] A/54/_.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 8* (A/54/8).

99-37081 (E) 021299

1. *Takes notes with appreciation* of the report of the Commission on Human Settlements on the work of its seventeenth session;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by the Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements to strengthen the capacity of Habitat, in particular the normative area, and to improve the linkages between normative and operational activities of the Centre so as to enable it to effectively exercise its vital role as focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Acting Executive Director in the revitalization of the Centre, and encourages the Executive Director to fully implement, as a matter of urgency, all administrative and financial management reforms, as part of the ongoing revitalization process;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the staffing of the new organizational structure is completed as a matter of urgency in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and gender balance, including in particular improving the status of women in the Secretariat and bearing in mind the need for recruitment of qualified staff in accordance with the relevant United Nations rules and regulations;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General as a matter of urgency to appoint a full-time Executive Director for the Centre in accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/242;

6. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and the United Nations Environment Programme within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities, with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi as the only United Nations headquarters located in a developing country;

8. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001, and reiterates the recognition by the Commission on Human Settlements at its seventeenth session that this implementation will require substantial additional funding and its request to the Executive Director to raise more funds from all sources and to broaden the donor base;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and procedures;

10. *Welcomes* the decision by the Economic and Social Council to devote its coordination segment in the year 2000 to human settlements issues and the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the report submitted to the Council under the segment along with its recommendations be made available to the General Assembly for its consideration under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)";

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)".

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.67

General Assembly

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2 December 1999

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 100
Environment and sustainable development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.17

Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it decided to establish the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Also recalling its resolutions 53/187 of 15 December 1998 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme and 53/242 of 28 July 1999 on the report of the Secretary-General on environment and human settlements,

Further recalling the results and decisions of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, convened for the purpose of the overall review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21,[1] and, in particular, paragraphs 119 and 122 to 124 of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[2]

Recalling the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the United Nations Environment Programme,[3] adopted by the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme at its nineteenth session,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session,[4]

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[3] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/52/25), annex, decision 19/1, annex.

[4] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/54/25).

99-37163 (E) 021299

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twentieth session and the decisions contained therein;[4]

2. *Notes*, in particular, Governing Council decision 20/31 of 4 February 1999, entitled "Proposed programme budget of the United Nations Environment Programme: revised requirements for the biennium 1998-1999 and proposed requirements for the biennium 2000-2001", which gives concrete support to the integrated work programme of the Programme and endorsement of its new functional organizational structure, and anticipates an increased level of funding to the Environment Fund for the biennium 2000-2001;

3. *Supports* the proposals for the facilitation of and support for enhancing linkages and coordination within and among environmental and environment-related conventions, including by the United Nations Environment Programme, with full respect for the status of the respective convention secretariats and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the contribution of the United Nations Environment Programme to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its seventh session, and encourages the Governing Council at future sessions to provide its scientific, technical and policy information and analysis of and advice on global environmental issues to the Commission on Sustainable Development at future sessions and, in particular, to contribute to the preparation of the ten-year review of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002;

5. *Welcomes* the progress in the negotiation of an international legally binding instrument for implementing international action on certain persistent organic pollutants with a view to its earlier conclusion;

6. *Encourages* the supporting role of the United Nations Environment Programme to developing countries, particularly in Africa through the development of policy support and capacity-building for international environmental negotiation, *inter alia*, through the revitalization of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment;

7. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the United Nations Office at Nairobi in its capacity as the only United Nations Headquarters located in a developing country, and encourages the increased utilization of its facilities;

8. *Takes note* of the increased cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic, budgetary and organizational identities, with a view to improving the effectiveness of their work;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to ensure the provision of sufficient financial resources, on a stable and predictable basis, for the successful implementation of the work programme for the biennium 2000-2001;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources from the regular budget to the United Nations Environment Programme for the biennium 2000-2001 in accordance with current budgetary practices and to consider ways to further support the revitalization of the United Nations Environment Programme.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.68

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
3 December 1999

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Sectoral policy questions: business and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.35

Prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/176 of 15 December 1998 on action against corruption and bribery in international commercial transactions,

Concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corruption, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and morality and jeopardize social, economic and political development,

Recognizing the importance of existing international and national laws for combating corruption in international commercial transactions,

Recognizing the important role of the business community, in particular the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the agricultural, industrial and service sectors and the need to create an enabling environment for business in order to facilitate economic growth and development of developing countries, most especially African countries,

Mindful of the very important role that the private sector can play in fostering economic growth and development and of the active involvement of the United Nations system in facilitating the constructive participation and orderly interaction of the private sector in the development process by embracing universal principles and norms, such as honesty, transparency and accountability,

1. *Condemns* corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the illegal transfer of funds;

2. *Calls* for further international and national measures and for international cooperation in support of these measures to combat corrupt practices and bribery in international transactions;

99-37323 (E) 031299

3. *Further, while recognizing the importance of national measures, calls* for increased international cooperation, including through the United Nations system, to devise ways and means of preventing and addressing illegal transfers, as well as repatriating illegally transferred funds to countries of origin, and calls upon all concerned countries and entities to cooperate in this regard;

4. *Requests* the international community to support the efforts of all countries aimed at strengthening institutional capacity for preventing corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the illegal transfer of funds;

5. *Decides* to keep this matter under review, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant bodies of the United Nations system, to include information on progress in the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations, including with regard to repatriating illegally transferred funds to countries of origin, in the report called for in its resolution 53/176, to be submitted to it at its fifty-fifth session.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.69

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
6 December 1999

Original: English

Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Item 105
Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Daúl Matute (Peru), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.3

Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/107 of 20 December 1995 and 53/198 of 15 December 1998 regarding the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), and all of its other resolutions relating to international cooperation for the eradication of poverty in the developing countries,

Recalling also the declarations and programmes of action of the United Nations major conferences and summits in the 1990s as they relate to the eradication of poverty,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006),[1]

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected,

Expressing its deep concern also that efforts to reduce poverty have been severely constrained because of the slowing down of economic growth in developing countries, as a result of, *inter alia*, and in particular, the 1997-1998 financial crisis and declining commodity prices, and noting that while some of the most visible effects of the crisis are being overcome in some regions and sectors, there is a need to sustain and expand the recovery momentum,

[1] A/54/316.

99-37592 (E) 061299

Recognizing that while the process of globalization brings with it opportunities, it poses new challenges and risks for developing countries, in particular the least developed among them, at a time when they are intensifying their efforts to achieve sustained economic growth and directing their national policies towards the eradication of poverty by the implementation of comprehensive strategies, policies and programmes, including those with long-term perspectives,

Recognizing also that, while the rates of poverty in some countries have been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized while others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, with increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Recognizing further that the combined effects of natural disasters, conflicts, entrenched poverty, diseases, especially malaria and the HIV/AIDS epidemic, and lack of proper education affect the economic prospects of and efforts to eradicate poverty in the most severely affected countries, especially in Africa,

Recognizing that, while it is the primary responsibility of States to attain social development, the international community should support the efforts of the developing countries to eradicate poverty and ensure basic social protection,

Expressing its appreciation to the developed countries that have agreed to and reached the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen further the efforts of international organizations, agencies, funds, programmes and bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund within their respective mandates, as well as those of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to implement measures and take action to eradicate poverty within the framework of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty,

Noting with appreciation the Cologne initiative, the decisions taken by the international community to assign priority to the eradication of poverty in the programmes and policy advice of the Bretton Woods institutions, and the enhancement introduced to the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative with a view to achieving more rapid, deeper and broader debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries,

1. *Reiterates* that the main objective of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty is to achieve the goal of eradicating absolute poverty and reducing overall poverty substantially in the world through decisive national action and international cooperation;

2. *Reiterates also* the call for strengthened efforts at all levels to implement fully and effectively the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations and all agreements and commitments adopted at United Nations major conferences and summits organized since 1990 as they relate to the eradication of poverty and, in this context, calls for specific action aimed at achieving tangible results through an output-oriented approach in attaining the objectives of the Decade as soon as possible;

3. *Reaffirms* that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication by fostering, *inter alia*, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty, thus empowering them to participate in decision-making with regard to the policies that affect them, the

promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development, and an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration;

4. *Stresses* the importance of tackling the root causes of poverty and the necessity of meeting the basic needs of all and, in this context, emphasizes the fundamental role, in the eradication of poverty, of strong and sustained economic growth that favours the poor, creates substantive expansion in productive opportunities and employment, increases incomes, promotes equitable income distribution and minimizes environmental degradation;

5. *Recognizes* the importance of the adoption of appropriate policy responses to the challenges of globalization at the national level, in particular by pursuing sound and stable domestic policies, including, *inter alia*, sound macroeconomic and social policies, in order to realize the objective of the eradication of poverty;

6. *Calls upon* all Governments to incorporate, as they deem appropriate, the recommendations made by the Secretary-General for possible action and initiatives for poverty eradication towards the new millennium[2] in the design and implementation of their national poverty alleviation strategies and to explore policies best suited to their national circumstances with a view to maximizing efforts aimed at poverty reduction and eradication;

7. *Reaffirms* that the causes of poverty should be addressed within the context of sectoral strategies, such as those on environment, food security, population, migration, health, shelter, development of human resources, including education, fresh water, rural development and productive employment, and of the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and enable them to build and strengthen their assets so as to achieve social and economic integration;

8. *Urges* that international efforts to assist developing countries in their efforts to alleviate poverty be strengthened, including by creating an enabling environment that would facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, improving their market access, facilitating the flow of financial resources and implementing fully and effectively all initiatives already taken regarding debt relief for developing countries, and emphasizes that the international community should consider further appropriate measures that would lead to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries so that they can share equally in the benefits of globalization, cope with its negative effects, avoid being marginalized from the process of globalization, and achieve full integration into the world economy;

9. *Calls upon* all countries to formulate and implement outcome-oriented national strategies and programmes, including setting time-bound targets for poverty reduction, and, in this context, notes the efforts being made to achieve the target of reducing by one half, by 2015, the proportion of people living in extreme poverty, which require strengthened national action and international assistance;

10. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

[2] A/54/316, sect. V.

11. *Calls upon* the developed countries to strengthen their efforts to achieve, as soon as possible, the agreed target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for overall official development assistance and, where agreed, within that target, to earmark 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product for the least developed countries;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of increasing the control of the poor over resources, including land, skill, knowledge, capital and social connections;

13. *Emphasizes also* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes the generation of production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support the development of microcredit institutions and their capacities and calls upon the international community, in particular the relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and international and regional financial institutions involved in the eradication of poverty, to support and explore the incorporation of the microcredit approach into their programmes and the further development, as appropriate, of other microfinance instruments;

14. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and to facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in this regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

15. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education and training and basic education in the empowerment of those living in poverty, notes the importance of the world forum on education to be held at Dakar in April 2000, and invites the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to propose measures aimed at enhancing the role of the United Nations system, including the World Bank, in helping Member States to provide effective and equitable education for all;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations system to assign priority to the eradication of poverty and to enhance coordination and, in this regard, encourages those agencies of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and other partners in development to continue to support all Member States in carrying forward their own strategy for the achievement of the objectives of the Decade;

17. *Reaffirms* the importance of agreeing on a mutual commitment between interested developed and developing country partners to allocate, on average, 20 per cent of official development assistance and 20 per cent of the national budget, respectively, to basic social programmes, and welcomes the efforts made to implement the 20:20 initiative which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

18. *Welcomes* the Cologne initiative, launched in June 1999, which called for substantial additional financing, and recognizes the importance of fair burden-sharing among creditors and the recent decisions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative which should provide more rapid, deeper and broader debt relief that will contribute to the reduction of poverty in a sustainable manner in these countries;

19. *Recognizes* the difficulties of highly indebted middle-income developing countries and other highly indebted middle-income debtor countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, *inter alia*, of high liquidity constraints which may require debt treatment including, as appropriate, debt-reduction measures that will assist them in their efforts effectively to combat poverty;

20. *Encourages* the continued examination in all relevant intergovernmental forums of ways and means to integrate poverty reduction objectives and strategies into discussions on international financial and development issues;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-fifth session on the progress made in the implementation of measures, recommendations and activities related to the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, including a thorough examination of the impact of globalization on the eradication of poverty, recommendations for possible action and initiatives for the eradication of poverty and proposals for better coordination of action taken by the United Nations system, as well as on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fifth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006)".

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General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 98 (b)
Sectoral policy questions: business and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Alexandru Niculescu (Romania), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.34

Business and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 52/209 of 18 December 1997 entitled "Business and development" and 51/191 of 16 December 1996 entitled "United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions",

Noting the adoption of relevant conventions by the International Labour Organization relating to labour,

Recalling the successful outcome of the World Summit for Social Development, including the commitments contained in the Copenhagen Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action,[2] and calling for the implementation of those commitments,

Noting the important efforts of the United Nations system to facilitate the active and constructive involvement of the private sector in the development process, and the efforts of the Secretary-General to create partnerships with the private sector in this regard,

Recognizing the sovereign right of each State to decide on the development of its private and public sectors in accordance with its priorities,

Emphasizing that business and industry, including corporations engaged in international business activities, can contribute substantially to a country's economic and social development and environmental protection, and are important generators of employment and economic growth,

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[1] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

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Reaffirming the importance, in the context of national development efforts, of promoting appropriate privatization, competition, entrepreneurship and a supportive legal and fiscal framework for business to increase efficiency, economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing the important role of small and medium-sized enterprises and microfinancing in supporting economic and social development,

Recognizing also that a dynamic business sector is essential to economic growth, job creation, trade expansion and technology development,

Recognizing the link between effective, accountable and transparent administration of the public sector, financial transparency in the private sector, investor confidence and the stability of financial systems,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Business and development";[3]

2. *Encourages* Governments, multilateral institutions and the private sector, including corporations engaged in international business activities, to strengthen partnerships to advance sustainable development through, *inter alia*, supporting the stable functioning of the international finance and trade system and investment flows, particularly in support of the development efforts of developing countries, as well as countries with economies in transition;

3. *Encourages* Governments to create an environment that enables businesses to conduct their activities in a humane, sustainable and socially responsible way;

4. *Urges* all Governments to create an enabling environment for business and investment, including through sound macroeconomic, fiscal and development policies, the rule of law, anti-corruption and anti-bribery efforts, and transparent business practices that promote efficiency, fairness and competitiveness in international commercial transactions, taking into account the needs of developing countries;

5. *Urges* the private sector, including corporations engaged in international business activities, to conduct orderly and fair business practices while adhering to and promoting the principles of honesty, transparency and accountability in international commercial transactions with a view to contributing to efforts to create an enabling environment for business and investment;

6. *Requests* the international community, including the business community and relevant international bodies, to consider ways and means of promoting such principles and practices and respect for those principles and practices by multinational companies in their operations in all countries;

7. *Emphasizes* the importance of a supportive international economic environment, including investment and trade, for the promotion of entrepreneurship and privatization;

8. *Strongly stresses* the need for adequate resources, including the provision of new and additional resources from all sources, and transfer of technology on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms as mutually agreed, to developing countries, particularly to Africa and the least developed countries, for developing appropriate infrastructure and business services to promote entrepreneurship;

[3] A/54/451

9. *Recognizes* the special development priorities and concerns of developing countries and in this regard calls for international support for the realization of their development goals including through the promotion of business and entrepreneurship;

10. *Stresses* the importance of microfinance, including microcredit, to people living in poverty, in respect of allowing them to undertake the establishment of micro-enterprises, which in turn generate self-employment and contribute to the achieving of empowerment, particularly of women, and calls for the strengthening of institutions supportive of microfinancing, in particular microcredit;

11. *Values* the promotion of entrepreneurship, including through the informal sector and micro-enterprises, in the development of small and medium-sized enterprises and industries by various actors throughout civil society, and of privatization, demonopolization, and the simplification of administrative procedures;

12. *Stresses* the importance, in the context of establishing and maintaining adequate social safety nets, including to assist workers, of encouraging investment in human resources through programmes devoted to health, education and job training, and recognizes that such efforts are an integral part of overall poverty reduction strategies;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to provide a forum for intergovernmental discussions concerning issues related to private sector development and international flows of investment, with input from representatives of the private sector;

14. *Invites* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and other relevant United Nations organs to further strengthen their activities, in particular for Africa and the least developed countries, in the promotion of entrepreneurship development, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises, and calls upon the international community to lend its support, where appropriate, to the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in this regard;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes, in accordance with their mandates, to continue to strengthen support for the promotion of entrepreneurship and, in their work in implementing the present resolution, to give due consideration to the role of the business sector in development, taking into account the priorities set by each country, while ensuring a gender perspective;

16. *Calls also upon* the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and agreed work programmes, to continue to assist Member States, at their request, in implementing national programmes to create an enabling environment for business, investment and development;

17. *Stresses* the need to continue to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition, at their request, in strengthening their capacity to encourage wider participation of the private sector in their economies;

18. *Invites* relevant United Nations organizations, within their mandates and in consultation with Governments, to promote meaningful contributions by business, in both the public and private sectors, in support of economic growth and sustainable development;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-sixth session the item entitled "Business and development", and requests the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations organizations, to submit at that session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/54/L.71

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Fifty-fourth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 97 (e)
Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt crisis and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Giovanni Brauzzi (Italy), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/54/L.2

Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997 and 53/175 of 15 December 1998 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

Reaffirming the urgent need for further implementation in an effective, equitable and development-oriented way of existing mechanisms for the treatment of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries in order to help them to exit from the rescheduling process and unsustainable debt burdens,

Welcoming and emphasizing the importance of the efforts of debtor countries, despite the great social cost often involved, in pursuing economic reform, stabilization and structural adjustment programmes aimed at achieving stability, raising domestic savings and investments, attaining competitiveness to take advantage of market access opportunities where available, reducing inflation, improving economic efficiency and addressing the social aspects of development, including the eradication of poverty as well as the development of social safety nets for the vulnerable and poorer strata of their populations, and encouraging them to continue in these efforts,

Welcoming the Cologne Debt Initiative launched in June 1999, and the recent decisions of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative which should provide deeper, broader and faster relief,

99-37946 (E) 081299

Noting with great concern that one of the major obstacles to the speedy implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative is financial constraints, stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries and, in this regard, stressing also that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund must be adequately funded,

Welcoming the actions taken by creditor countries within the framework of the Paris Club and by some creditor countries through the cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral debts,

Noting with concern the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of heavily indebted developing countries as constituting an element adversely affecting their development efforts and economic growth, and stressing the importance of alleviating once and for all, where applicable, the onerous debt and debt service burden with the aim of attaining a sustainable level of debt and debt service on the basis of an effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable approach, and, where appropriate, addressing the full stock of debt of the poorest most indebted developing countries as a matter of priority,

Noting with great concern the continuing high debt burden borne by most African countries and least developed countries as exacerbated, *inter alia*, by the declining trend in many commodity prices,

Noting also with great concern that the recent financial crisis has aggravated the debt-servicing burdens of many developing countries, including low-income and middle-income countries, particularly in the context of meeting their international debt and debt-servicing obligations in a timely fashion despite serious external and domestic financial constraints,

Noting with concern that a growing number of highly indebted middle-income developing countries are facing difficulties in meeting their external debt-servicing obligations, *inter alia*, owing to liquidity constraints,

Stressing that effective management of the debt of developing countries, including middle-income countries, is an important factor among others in their sustained economic growth and in the smooth functioning of the world economy,

Noting with great concern that the debt overhang of the heavily indebted poor countries still constitutes a problem hampering their development, and, in this context, emphasizing the importance of the full and speedy implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative,

Stressing the need for evolving debt strategies to continue to address the debt sustainability of developing countries, and, in this connection, stressing also the urgent need for full and swift implementation of initiatives that will further assist developing countries, in particular the poorest and heavily indebted countries, especially in Africa, in their efforts to improve their debt situation in view of their continued very high levels of total debt stock and servicing burdens,

Stressing also the need for continuing global economic growth and the necessity for a continuing supportive international economic environment with regard to, *inter alia*, terms of trade, commodity prices, improved market access, trade practices, access to technology, exchange rates and international interest rates, and noting the continued need for resources for sustained economic growth and sustainable development of the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences,

Noting that mechanisms such as debt rescheduling and debt conversions alone are not sufficient to resolve all the problems relating to long-term debt sustainability,

Stressing the importance of a sound enabling environment for effective debt management,

Recognizing those efforts of the international community that contribute to effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to the external debt and debt-serving problems of developing countries, and emphasizing that the international community should consider further appropriate measures to that end,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on recent developments in the debt situation of developing countries;[1]

2. *Recognizes* that effective, equitable, development-oriented and durable solutions to external debt and debt-servicing burdens of developing countries can contribute substantially to the strengthening of the global economy and to the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences;

3. *Also recognizes* that the Cologne Debt Initiative and the recent decisions adopted by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative contribute to achieving durable solutions to the external debt and debt-servicing burdens of the heavily indebted poor developing countries;

4. *Reiterates* the call for industrialized countries that have not yet contributed to the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility (now renamed the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility) and the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund to come forward immediately with their contribution;

5. *Notes* the agreement on the elements of a financing plan for multilateral development banks and, in this regard, stresses the urgency of providing new and additional resources in order to secure adequate funding for an overall financing plan of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative, including in particular the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Trust Fund, in the context of equitable and transparent burden-sharing that would permit the Initiative to be launched and the delivery of debt relief to begin for those countries requiring retroactive relief and those expected to reach their decision points over the near term, without compromising the financing made available through concessional windows such as the International Development Association, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of applying the enhanced Initiative in those eligible countries that have already reached their decision and completion points within the framework of the previous Initiative;

6. *Also notes* that the so-called floating completion points approach offers the opportunity to shorten the time-frame for implementation of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative to countries that meet the necessary conditions so that debt relief can be provided faster than under the original heavily indebted poor countries framework, and, in this regard, urges speedy implementation of the approach and welcomes the flexibility that the enhanced Initiative provides in terms of interim assistance and front-loading of the delivery of debt to qualifying eligible countries;

7. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative flexibly, including shortening the interval between the decision and

[1] A/54/370.

completion points, taking due account of the policy performance of the countries concerned in a transparent manner and with the full involvement of the debtor countries;

8. *Notes* that there is now a possibility of expanding eligibility under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative to thirty-six countries, and in this regard looks forward to an early review of the list of heavily indebted poor countries;

9. *Stresses* the importance of considering increased flexibility with regard to Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative eligibility criteria, including continuously evaluating and actively monitoring the implication of existing terms of the eligibility criteria so as to ensure sufficient coverage of heavily indebted poor countries, increased flexibility being, in this context, particularly important for known borderline cases and countries in post-conflict situations, in respect of, *inter alia*, avoiding delays in the establishment of a track record of economic performance caused by temporary setbacks due to external shocks, in order to help them to exit from the rescheduling process and from unsustainable debt burdens;

10. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis, and encourages the further commissioning of relevant independent studies on the debt problem of developing countries;

11. *Welcomes* the proposed framework for strengthening the link between debt relief and poverty eradication and stresses the need for its flexible implementation, recognizing that, while the poverty reduction strategy paper should be in place by the decision point, on a transitional basis the decision point could be reached without agreement on a poverty paper but that in all cases demonstrable progress in implementing a poverty reduction strategy would be required by the completion point;

12. *Emphasizes* that poverty reduction programmes as linked to the implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative must be country-driven and in accordance with the priorities and programmes of countries eligible under the Initiative, and stresses the role of civil society in this regard;

13. *Stresses* the need for debt-relief initiatives to be guided by enhanced transparency and predictability, involving debtor countries in any review and analysis that is conducted during the adjustment period;

14. *Welcomes* the decision of those countries that have cancelled bilateral official debt and urges creditor countries that have not done so to consider full cancellation of bilateral official debts of countries eligible under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative and, as appropriate, action in order to address the needs of post-conflict countries, particularly those with protracted arrears, developing countries affected by serious natural disasters and poor countries with very low social and human development indicators, including the possibility of debt-relief measures through, *inter alia*, the cancellation and equivalent relief of bilateral official debt, and stresses the importance of building coalitions with civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations in all countries to ensure in the shortest possible time the implementation of pronouncements on debt forgiveness in order that countries eligible under the Initiative may quickly benefit from such pronouncements;

15. *Notes* that the multilateral debt-relief funds can have a positive impact in respect of assisting Governments in safeguarding or increasing expenditures on priority social sectors and encourages donors to continue efforts in this regard in the context of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative;

16. *Stresses* the principle that funding of any debt relief should not affect adversely the support for other development activities in favour of developing countries, including the level of funding for the United Nations funds and programmes and, in this regard, welcomes the decision of the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund on the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries (Development Committee) that financing of debt relief should not compromise the financing made available through concessional windows such as the International Development Association, and expresses its appreciation that certain developed countries have reached or even gone beyond the agreed target for official development assistance of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product, while, at the same time, calling upon other developed countries to fulfil this target for official development assistance as soon as possible;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* for the action taken by creditor countries of the Paris Club in December 1998 with regard to the debts of countries affected by hurricane Mitch, and, in this regard, reiterates the need for relief promises to come to fruition within the shortest possible time-frames in order to free the requisite resources for national reconstruction efforts, welcomes the decision of various countries to address the debt situation of Honduras and Nicaragua, including through cancellation of their bilateral official debt, and invites others to take similar action;

18. *Encourages* the international creditor community to consider appropriate measures in the case of countries with a very high level of debt overhang, including in particular low-income African countries, in order to make an appropriate and consistent contribution to the common objective of debt sustainability;

19. *Recognizes* the difficulties of highly indebted middle-income developing countries and other highly indebted middle-income countries in meeting their external debt and debt-servicing obligations and notes the worsening situation in some of them in the context, *inter alia*, of higher liquidity constraints, which may require debt treatment including, as appropriate, debt reduction measures;

20. *Calls* for concerted national and international action to address effectively debt problems of middle-income developing countries with a view to resolving their potential long-term debt sustainability problems through various debt treatment measures, including, as appropriate, orderly mechanisms for debt reduction, and encourages all creditor and debtor countries to utilize to the fullest extent possible, where appropriate, all existing mechanisms for debt reduction;

21. *Recognizes* the efforts of indebted developing countries in regard to fulfilling their commitments on debt servicing despite the high social cost incurred, and, in this regard, encourages private creditors and, in particular, commercial banks to continue their initiatives and efforts to address the commercial debt problems of middle-income developing countries, in particular those affected by the financial crisis;

22. *Also recognizes* the need to continue to work with all creditors in order to facilitate continued access to international capital markets and, in the event that extraordinary circumstances preclude a country from temporarily meeting its debt-servicing commitments, urges Governments to work with creditors in a transparent and timely fashion towards a workable resolution of the repayment problem;

23. *Further recognizes* the need to make the maximum use of existing debt-relief measures, including existing facilities to provide relief through various debt conversion programmes, such as debt-equity swaps, debt-for-nature swaps, debt-for-child-development swaps and other debt-for-development efforts, as well as to support measures in favour of

the most vulnerable segments of the societies of those countries and to develop techniques of debt conversion applied to social development programmes and projects, in conformity with the priorities of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in March 1995;[2]

24. *Stresses* that debt relief should contribute towards development objectives, including poverty reduction, and, in this regard, urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

25. *Notes*, while recognizing the benefits of liberalization of international capital flows, the adverse impact of the volatility of short-term capital flows on exchange rates, interest rates and the debt situation of developing countries, and stresses the need for coherence in implementing policies, as well as capital accounts liberalization in an orderly, gradual and well-sequenced manner to keep pace with the strengthening of countries' ability to sustain its consequences, in order to mitigate the adverse impact of such volatility;

26. *Also notes* that debt relief alone will not lead to poverty reduction, and in this regard, emphasizes the need for an enabling environment as well as for an efficient, transparent and accountable public service and administration, and also emphasizes the urgency of securing an adequate level of funding support for debt relief, in particular the agreement for an overall financing plan for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Debt Initiative;

27. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of developing countries in debt management and calls upon the international community to support the efforts towards this end and in this regard, stresses the importance of initiatives such as the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System,[3] and the debt management capacity-building programme;

28. *Reaffirms* the Mid-term Global Review of Progress towards the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s,[4] in particular the appropriate actions required in favour of those countries concerning their official bilateral, commercial and multilateral debts;

29. *Stresses* the need for new financial flows to debtor developing countries from all sources, in addition to debt-relief measures that include debt and debt-service reduction, and urges creditor countries and multilateral financial institutions to continue to extend concessional financial assistance, particularly to the least developed countries, in order to support the implementation of economic reforms and stabilization and structural adjustment programmes by the developing countries that will enable them to extricate themselves from the debt overhang and attract new investment and to assist them in achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and recent United Nations conferences, and the eradication of poverty;

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[2] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8).

[3] The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System is a computerized system developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in developing appropriate administrative, institutional and legal structures for effective foreign and domestic public debt management. By June 1999, the system had been installed in the debt offices of fifty countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean.

[4] Resolution 50/103, annex.

30. *Notes* the importance of providing adequate resources for debt-relief measures in the light of the adverse effects of the international financial crises on the mobilization of both domestic and external resources for the development of the developing countries, including those in Africa and the least developed countries;

31. *Stresses* the importance of trade to development, poverty alleviation and sustained global economic recovery, and, in this regard, emphasizes that multilateral trade negotiations should deliver early and substantial benefits to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, as well as improve market access and further reduce barriers to trade;

32. *Also stresses* the importance for developing countries of continuing their efforts to promote a favourable environment for attracting foreign investment, thereby promoting economic growth and sustainable development, so as to favour their exit from debt and debt-servicing problems, and further stresses the need for the international community to promote a conducive external environment through, *inter alia*, improved market access, stabilization of exchange rates, effective stewardship of international interest rates, increased resource flows, access to international financial markets, flow of financial resources and improved access to technology for developing countries;

33. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions, as well as the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits organized since the beginning of the 1990s on development, as well as of the outcomes of review processes, in particular those related to the question of the external debt problem of developing countries;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in this report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of the developing countries.